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121. (New) An electrostatic discharge protection device, comprising:
a substrate;
a first diffusion region formed in the substrate;
a second diffusion region formed in the substrate adjacent to and spaced from
the first diffusion region;
a contact region for making a conductive connection to the first diffusion region;
a channel formed in a third region between the first and second diffusion regions;
and a plurality of current divider segments formed within the first diffusion region
between said at least one contact and the channel and each of the segments being
closer to the channel than to the contact region.

122. (New) The device of claim 121, wherein the contract region includes a
plurality of contacts.--

REMARKS

By the present amendment, Applicants have amended claims 83-85 and 88 to more appropriately define the invention; added new claims 96-122 to protect additional aspects related to the present invention; and amended the specification to correct the brief summary of the invention. No new matter has been added.

On December 21, 2001, Applicants filed a response to the restriction requirement of November 29, 2001, provisionally electing to prosecute Group I, claims 1-92, 94, and 95.

In a supplemental restriction requirement dated January 10, 2002, the Examiner required further restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between the following species:

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Species 1, Figure 3; Species 2, Figures 4A and 4B; Species 3, Figures 4C and 4D; Species 4, Figure 5; Species 5, Figure 6; Species 6, Figures 7A and 7B; Species 7, Figure 7C; Species 8, Figure 8; Species 9, Figure 9; Species 10, Figure 10; Species 11, Figure 11; Species 12, Figure 12; Species 13, Figure 13; Species 14, Figure 14; Species 15; Figure 15; Species 16, Figure 16; Species 17, Figure 17; Species 18, Figure 18; Species 19, Figure 19; Species 20, Figure 20; Species 21, Figure 21, Species 22, Figure 22; Species 23, Figure 23; Species 24, Figure 24; Species 25, Figure 25; Species 26, Figure 26.

Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Species 24, Figure 24. Claims 83-92 and 96-122 are readable on the provisionally elected species.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the specification and claims by this Amendment. The attachment is captioned "Appendix to Amendment of March 11, 2002".

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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Dated: March 11, 2002

By:



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Appendix to Amendment of March 11, 2002

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Replace the paragraph beginning on page 5, line 3 and ending on page 5, line 10 with the following new paragraph:

Further in accordance with the present invention, there is provided an electrostatic discharge protection device, comprising: a substrate; a first diffusion region formed in the substrate; a second diffusion region formed in the substrate adjacent to and spaced from the first diffusion region; contacts for making a conductive connection to the first diffusion region; a channel formed in a third region between the first and second diffusion region; and []a plurality of current divider segments formed within the first diffusion region, the respective segments each formed into one of at least two different shapes, two different sizes, [or]two different orientations, or two different spacings (gaps) between adjacent current divider segments.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 83-85 and 88, as follows:

83. (Amended) An electrostatic discharge protection device, comprising:

a substrate;

a first diffusion region formed in the substrate;

a second diffusion region formed in the substrate adjacent to and spaced from the first diffusion region;

[contacts] at least one contact for making a conductive connection to the first diffusion region;

a channel formed in a third region between the first and second diffusion regions; and

a plurality of current divider segments [formed] unevenly distributed within the first diffusion region[], the respective segments each formed into one of at least two different shapes, two different sizes, or two different orientation].

84. (Amended) The device of claim [83] 96, wherein the different shapes are selected from a square, a circle, a cross shape, a T shape, a V shape, a U shape, and an L shape.

85. (Amended) The device of claim [83] 96, wherein the [two] different shapes differ from each other with respect to at least one of length, width, size, and [cross sectional] area.

88. (Amended) The device of claim 83, wherein

the plurality of segments including a first row of segments;

each one of the first row of segments has a center-of-area, the respective centers-of-area [of the plurality of segments] being one of aligned or not aligned.

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